

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1108

By Finney L

A RESOLUTION to recognize Judge James D. Todd on the occasion of his retirement.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those citizens who have performed with uncommon devotion and acumen throughout their years of service on the bench; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable James Todd is one such estimable citizen who has served with distinction for over twenty-five years as United States District Court Judge for the Western District of Tennessee and will be taking a much deserved retirement this year; and

WHEREAS, a native of Scotts Hill, Tennessee, Judge Todd earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Lambuth College before attaining his M.C.S. degree from the University of Mississippi and his law degree from Memphis State University; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from law school, Judge Todd practiced law in Jackson, Tennessee with the firm, Waldrop, Farmer, Todd, and Breen from 1972-1983; and

WHEREAS, in recognition of his keen legal mind and finely honed sense of justice, James Todd was appointed Judge for the Twenty-Sixth Judicial District of the Tennessee Circuit Court in 1983; and

WHEREAS, in 1985, he was appointed to serve as Judge of the United States District Court for the Western District of Tennessee, in which court he served with acumen and alacrity prior to rendering astute service as the Chief Judge of the same judicial district from 2001-2007; and

WHEREAS, Judge Todd has also given unreservedly of himself to this State's most precious resource—our children; he was an instructor at Lyman High School in Florida before serving as an instructor and Chairman of the Science Department at the Memphis University School; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable James Todd is an active and important part of our judicial system, participating in numerous worthy organizations, including the Sixth Circuit District Judges Association, which he served as President from 2000-2001, and the Sixth Circuit Judicial Council, which he has served as President since 2001; and

WHEREAS, he has also lent his support to the Jackson-Madison County Bar Association, rendering stellar service as Secretary-Treasurer, Vice-President, and President; the Federal Judges Association, which he served on the Board of Directors; the Federal Bar Association; the Tennessee Bar Association; the Tennessee Bar Foundation; the Board of Professional Responsibility; and the Tennessee Defense Lawyer Association; and

WHEREAS, Judge James Todd exemplifies the spirit of dedication that is characteristic of a true Tennessean and epitomizes the ideal of the consummate jurist and dedicated public servant; and

WHEREAS, Judge Todd has selflessly contributed his time and numerous abilities to praiseworthy organizations, including service as a coach of Jackson Senior League Baseball, Treasurer of the Jackson Youth Baseball Association, President of Lambuth College Alumni Association, Trustee of Lambuth University, President of the Madison County Young Republicans, and a member of the Executive Committee of the Madison County Republicans; and

WHEREAS, Judge James Todd exemplifies the spirit and allegiance to justice and equality that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Judge Todd's stalwart commitment to excellence and significant contributions to the judicial system and his community have been duly noted with his receipt of many awards accolades, including the 1985 Alumnus of the Year of the Lambuth College Alumni Association, the Law and Liberty Award from the Jackson-Madison County Bar Association, and the Lifetime Achievement Award from Lambuth University; and

WHEREAS, throughout his estimable career, the Honorable James Todd has demonstrated the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of members of the bar and bench alike and the parties seeking justice before his court; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we extend to Judge James Todd our heartfelt wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and every continued success in his future endeavors, as we salute his distinguished career on the bench.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.